

625  
NO MEMO (26) 4/20/82  
D  
35  
December 16, 1977

UNCLASSIFIED  
MEMORANDUM

TO : H - Mr. Bennet  
FROM : HA - Patricia M. Derian  
SUBJECT: Human Rights Reports for Congress

With reference to your memorandum of November 29, Warren did indeed agree that the human rights reports which are being prepared for Congress could contain an introductory paragraph. In response to memoranda from two of the Bureaus, he decided that those Bureaus which felt strongly about including a paragraph could do so, but the decision was not mandatory. We relayed this decision to the Bureaus just as many of the reports were being typed in final. In some cases the final reports have come in with introductory paragraphs, and some without.

I doubt that it is possible to change format requirements for the reports at this late date.

Many were typed or being typed in final when we received your memorandum. The reports were prepared according to a format Warren approved months ago--without an introductory paragraph. We spent months systematically excising opening paragraphs from early drafts until Warren reluctantly agreed that the paragraphs could be included on a discretionary basis. Some reports were redone to include the new paragraphs; others were completed without them and sent forward. I think if we were to ask the Bureaus to redo a substantial number of reports to include paragraphs which they were earlier told to take out we would face armed rebellion.

Secondly, the administrative task would tie up many

UNCLASSIFIED

624

UNCLASSIFIED

-2-

hours of my staff and of a number of officers and secretaries around the building. Taking on this project at this point could create problems in meeting the deadline for submission to Congress.

It has been pretty hard to get 141 writers and a couple hundred commentators to adhere to any model.

8  
Drafted by:HA/HR:HKHill/lj

UNCLASSIFIED